

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicants submit below a complete listing of the current claims, including marked-up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An analysis system, comprising:
 - a plurality of sensors configured to collect perception evidence;
 - a computer system comprising a perception system that, when executed, consumes computing resources of the computing system, the perception system comprising:
 - a control component that selectively gathers from the plurality of sensors the perception evidence, the perception evidence being gathered at times selected to limit utilization of the computing resources of the computer system by the perception system; and
 - an analysis component that utilizes an analysis policy to analyze the perception evidence to determine a context of a user of the computer system,
 - wherein:
 - the control component uses information from the analysis component regarding at least one feature about which to collect data to select the times at which to gather perception evidence from one or more of the plurality of sensors; and
 - the analysis component generates the information based on a value of the at least one feature for determining the context;
 - the analysis policy comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of: a random selection perception policy that randomly selects which features to utilize on a frame by frame basis, a rate-based perception policy that defines observational frequencies and duty cycles for at least one feature or an EVI-based perception policy that determines an expected value of information via a cost-benefit analysis means utilizing at least expected values and cost of

analysis values for at least one feature, the cost of analysis values comprising at least one value proportional to an impact to the computing resources employed by the perception system.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, the analysis component employing, at least in part, learned inferences relating to persistence versus volatility of observational states to account for unobserved data.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, the learned inferences based, at least in part, on a probability distribution over future states based on at least one previously observed value that is captured by at least one function of time.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3, the probability distribution comprising a Gaussian distribution:

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma(t)^2)^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma(t)^2}\right\}$$

where μ is a mean value and $\sigma(t)$ is a standard deviation at time "t."

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, the control component employing a criticality level of at least one user task to limit utilization of computing resources by the perception system.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, the control component limiting utilization of computing resources based upon context.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, the control component limiting utilization of computing resources by controlling what analysis policy is employed.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, the selection of the analysis policy based on context information.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one perception sensor to provide the perception evidence for the perception system.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, the control component limiting utilization of computing resources by facilitating control of at least one selected from the group consisting of an analysis process for at least one perception sensor and a focus of attention of at least one perception sensor.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9, the control component limiting utilization of computing resources by controlling what perception sensors are employed.

12. (Original) The system of claim 9, the perception sensor comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of a video camera, an audio microphone, a keyboard keystroke sensor, a mouse utilization sensor, and a motion detector.

13. (Original) The system of claim 9, the perception sensor comprising a detector for at least one state of at least one selected from the group consisting of at least one data structure within a computing system and at least one application activity within a computing system.

14. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a user interface component that interfaces with at least one user to relay information relating to user perception preferences to the perception system.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, the control component employing at least one user perception preference to limit utilization of computing resources by the perception system.

16. (Original) The system of claim 14, the user perception preferences comprising values of cost for utilizing computing resources.

17. (Original) The system of claim 1, the perception evidence analysis operations comprising analysis policy selection control operations between the control component and the analysis component.

18. (Original) The system of claim 1, the perception evidence analysis operations comprising perception evidence related information exchanges between the control component and the analysis component.

19. (Original) The analysis system of claim 1 utilized to design an analysis policy of at least one perception system and its perception sensors.

20. (Original) The analysis system of claim 1 utilized to determine at least one value of adding at least one sensor to at least one perception system.

21. (Original) The analysis system of claim 1 utilized to provide information relating to volatility of data due to influences of a flow of time.

22. (Original) The analysis system of claim 1 utilized to determine at least one time-based economic value of a business given its environmental context.

23. (Original) The system of claim 1, the analysis policy comprising a context-based analysis policy.

24. (Original) The system of claim 1, the analysis policy comprising a random selection perception policy that randomly selects which features to utilize on a frame by frame basis.

25. (Original) The system of claim 1, the analysis policy comprising a rate-based perception policy that defines observational frequencies and duty cycles for at least one feature.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25, the rate-based perception policy utilizing off time that is determined by cross-validation means on a real-time data validation set to determine time for computations.

27. (Original) The system of claim 1, the analysis policy comprising an EVI-based perception policy that determines an expected value of information *via* a cost-benefit analysis means utilizing at least expected values and cost of analysis values for at least one feature.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27, the cost of analysis values comprising at least one value proportional to an impact to the computing resources employed by the perception system.

29. (Original) The system of claim 27, the EVI-based perception policy employing a context-based cost model to determine the cost of analysis values.

30. (Original) The system of claim 27, the EVI-based perception policy employing real-time computations of expected value of information.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30, the real-time computations processed utilizing a myopic, single step approach for computing a next best set of observations.

32. (Original) The system of claim 27, the cost of analysis values comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of dollar values, percentage of CPU utilization values, latency values, and user selected preference values.

33. (Original) The system of claim 27, the cost-benefit analysis means utilizing substantially similar value types for a cost value and a benefit value to calculate the expected value of information.

34. (Original) The system of claim 27, the cost-benefit analysis means further comprising at least one utility model that facilitates in analyzing a benefit of determining a value of at least one feature.

35. (Original) The system of claim 34, the utility model comprising a conditional utility model that alters functionality dependent upon context.

36. (Currently amended) An analysis system comprising at least one processor, the analysis system comprising

a control component that selectively gathers perception evidence to limit utilization of computing resources by a perception system; and

an analysis component that utilizes an analysis policy to analyze, with the at least one processor, the perception evidence obtained for employment in the perception system; wherein

the analysis component is interactive with the control component for perception evidence analysis operations,

the analysis policy comprises an EVI-based perception policy that determines an expected value of information *via* a cost-benefit analysis means utilizing at least expected values and cost of analysis values for at least one feature,

the cost-benefit analysis means comprise at least one utility model that facilitates in analyzing a benefit of determining a value of the at least one feature,

the utility model comprises a conditional utility model that alters functionality dependent upon context, and

the expected value of information is determined, at least in part, *via* utilization of Equation (2):

$$EVI(f_k) = EV(f_k) - \max_i \sum_j P(M_j | E)U(M_i, M_j) - cost(f_k) \quad \text{Eq. (2)}$$

where $EVI(f_k)$ is the expected value of information for perceptual feature combination f_k , $EV(f_k)$ is an expected value of f_k based on observed evidence, E represents previous observational evidence, $U(M_i, M_j)$ is a utility of asserting a value of asserting that real-world state M_i is M_j , and $cost(f_k)$ is a computational cost associated with computing feature combination f_k .

37. (Original) The system of claim 27, the EVI-based perception policy further comprising a probabilistic model.

38. (Original) The system of claim 37, the probabilistic model comprising a Hidden Markov Model (HMM) model.

39. (Original) The system of claim 38, the expected value of information determined, at least in part, *via* Equation (4):

$$\begin{aligned} EVI(f_k) &\propto \int \sum_n [\sum_i \alpha_i^n(s) \sum_l a_i^n b_l^n(O_{t+1}^{f_k})] P(M_n) \\ &\max_i \sum_j U(M_i, M_j) p(M_j) d_{O_{t+1}^{f_k}} \\ &- \max_i \sum_j U(M_i, M_j) p(M_j) - cost(O_{t+1}^{f_k}) \end{aligned} \quad \text{Eq. (4)}$$

where $EVI(f_k)$ is the expected value of information for perceptual feature combination f_k , $\alpha_i^n(s)$ is an alpha or forward variable at time t and state s in a standard Baum-Welch algorithm, a_{st}^n is a transition probability of going from state s to state t , and $b_l^n(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n})$ is a probability of observing $O_{t+1}^{f_k^n}$ in state t , all of them in model M_n , $U(M_i, M_j)$ is a utility of assessing a value of asserting that real-world state M_i is M_j , and f_k^m , $m = 1 \dots M$ to denote all possible values of a feature combination f_k , and $cost(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n})$ is a computational cost associated with computing observations $O_{t+1}^{f_k^n}$.

40. (Original) The system of claim 38, the expected value of information determined, at least in part, via discretized Equation (5):

$$\begin{aligned} EVI &\propto \sum_m \sum_n [\sum_s \alpha_i^n(s) \sum_t a_{st}^n b_l^n(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n})] P(M_n) \\ &\quad \max_i \sum_j U(M_i, M_j) p(M_j) \\ &\quad - \max_i \sum_j U(M_i, M_j) p(M_j) - cost(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n}) \end{aligned} \tag{Eq. (5)}$$

where EVI is the expected value of information, $\alpha_i^n(s)$ is an alpha or forward variable at time t and state s in a standard Baum-Welch algorithm, a_{st}^n is a transition probability of going from state s to state t , and $b_l^n(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n})$ is a probability of observing $O_{t+1}^{f_k^n}$ in state t , all of them in model M_n , $U(M_i, M_j)$ is a utility of assessing a value of asserting that real-world state M_i is M_j , and f_k^m ,

$m = 1 \dots M$ to denote discretized values of a feature combination f_k , and $\text{cost}(O_{i+1}^{f_m^*})$ is a computational cost associated with computing observations $O_{i+1}^{f_m^*}$.

41. (Original) The system of claim 37, the probabilistic model comprising a Layered Hidden Markov Model (LHMM) model.

42. (Original) The system of claim 41, the Layered Hidden Markov Model (LHMM) utilized to substantially reduce re-training of higher level layers when an operating environment change occurs.

43. (Currently amended) A method of analyzing data, comprising:
with the at least one processor:

obtaining perception evidence for a perception system from a plurality of sensors for a particular context;

determining a context from the perception evidence;

analyzing the perception evidence utilizing an analysis policy to determine a perceived system value indicating a value of utilization of computing resources of a computer system by the perception system; and

employing the perceived system value to limit utilization of the computing resources of a computer system by the perception system by determining at least one sensor from the plurality of sensors whether to obtain the perception evidence-based on the determined perceived system value, wherein and a time at which to obtain the perception evidence by the at least one sensor, wherein the time is obtained is selected based on an intensity of interaction of a user with the computer system.

44. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, wherein analyzing the perception evidence further comprising comprises:

employing, at least in part, learned inferences relating to persistence versus volatility of observational states to provide unobserved perception evidence in lieu of observed perception evidence.

45. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein the learned inferences are based, at least in part, on a probability distribution model for future states based on at least one previously observed value that is captured by at least one function of time.

46. (Currently amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the probability distribution model comprising comprises, at least in part, a Gaussian distribution:

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma(t)^2)^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma(t)^2}\right\}$$

where μ is a mean value and $\sigma(t)$ is a standard deviation at time "t."

47. (Original) The method of claim 43, further comprising:
accepting user input to obtain user preferences to establish criteria for limiting utilization of the computing resources by the perception system.

48. (Currently amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the criteria comprising comprises at least one critical task that supersedes analysis of the perception evidence for the at least one feature in a given the context.

49. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising:
~~employing at least one perception sensor to obtain the perception evidence; and~~
~~extracting the perception evidence pertaining to at least one feature from the perception at~~
least one sensor.

50. (Cancelled)

51. (Currently amended) The method of claim 49, further comprising:
selecting when ~~perception sensors are employed~~ the at least one sensor is employed to
obtain the perception evidence to further optimize the limiting of the computing resources
employed by the perception system.

52. (Currently amended) The method of claim 49, wherein the at least one ~~perception~~
~~sensor comprising obtains~~ perception evidence for at least one feature.

53. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising:
selecting the analysis policy based on optimization of limiting the computing resources
for [[a]] ~~given the~~ context.

[[53]] 54. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising:
selecting the analysis policy based on optimization of limiting the computing resources
for obtaining a desired feature.

55. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, wherein employing the perceived
system value ~~comprising comprises~~ utilizing the computing resources when the perceived system
value is above a threshold.

56. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, wherein employing the perceived
system value ~~comprising comprises~~ utilizing the computing resources for a feature combination
that yields a maximal perceived system value.

57. (Original) The method of claim 55, the threshold is a predetermined threshold.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57, the predetermined threshold is set *via* a user preference.

59. (Original) The method of claim 57, the predetermined threshold is set *via* the perception system based on context.

60. (Original) The method of claim 43, the analysis policy comprising a rate-based perception policy.

61. (Original) The method of claim 60, further comprising:
defining observational frequencies and duty cycles *via* a cross-validation means on a real-time data validation set for perception sensors employed by the perception system; and
determining which perception sensors are providing sensed data and utilizing the sensed data to compute features facilitated by the sensed data.

62. (Original) The method of claim 61, further comprising:
adapting the observational frequencies and duty cycles for at least one sensor dynamically.

63. (Original) The method of claim 43, the analysis policy comprising a random selection-based perception policy.

64. (Original) The method of claim 63, further comprising:
determining features available based on available perception sensors employed by the perception system;
randomly selecting which features to analyze; and
processing at least one analyzed feature to determine output perception data.

65. (Original) The method of claim 43, the analysis policy comprising an EVI-based perception policy.

66. (Original) The method of claim 65, further comprising:
calculating a benefit value for determining a feature;
calculating a cost value for determining the feature; and
utilizing the EVI-based perception policy to derive a cost-benefit analysis value of the feature; the cost benefit analysis utilizing a benefit value and a cost value.

67. (Original) The method of claim 66, the benefit value and the cost value calculated employing a substantially similar value type.

68. (Original) The method of claim 67, the value type comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of a dollar value, a percentage of CPU utilization value, a latency value, and a user-selected value.

69. (Original) The method of claim 65, the EVI-based perception policy further comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of a utility model and a probabilistic model.

70. (Original) The method of claim 69, further comprising:
evaluating an expected value of information (EVI) utilizing, at least in part, employment of Equation (2):

$$EVI(f_k) = EV(f_k) - \max_i \sum_j P(M_j | E)U(M_i, M_j) - cost(f_k) \quad \text{Eq. (2)}$$

where $EVI(f_k)$ is the expected value of information for perceptual feature combination f_k , $EV(f_k)$ is an expected value of f_k based on observed evidence, E represents previous observational

evidence, $U(M_i, M_j)$ is a utility of assessing a value of asserting that real-world state M_i is M_j , and $cost(f_k)$ is a computational cost associated with computing feature combination f_k .

71. (Original) The method of claim 69, the probabilistic model comprising a Hidden Markov Model (HMM).

72. (Original) The method of claim 71, further comprising:
evaluating an expected value of information (EVI) utilizing, at least in part, employment of Equation (4):

$$\begin{aligned} EVI(f_k) &\propto \int \sum_n [\sum_s \alpha_t^n(s) \sum_l a_{sl}^n b_l^n(O_{t+1}^{f_k})] P(M_n) \\ &\max_i \sum_j U(M_i, M_j) p(M_j) d_{O_{t+1}^{f_k}} \\ &- \max_i \sum_j U(M_i, M_j) p(M_j) - cost(O_{t+1}^{f_k}) \end{aligned} \quad \text{Eq. (4)}$$

where $EVI(f_k)$ is the expected value of information for perceptual feature combination f_k , $\alpha_t^n(s)$ is an alpha or forward variable at time t and state s in a standard Baum-Welch algorithm, a_{sl}^n is a transition probability of going from state s to state l , and $b_l^n(O_{t+1}^{f_k})$ is a probability of observing $O_{t+1}^{f_k}$ in state l , all of them in model M_n , $U(M_i, M_j)$ is a utility of assessing a value of asserting that real-world state M_i is M_j , and f_k^m , $m = 1 \dots M$ to denote all possible values of a feature combination f_k , and $cost(O_{t+1}^{f_k})$ is a computational cost associated with computing observations $O_{t+1}^{f_k}$.

73. (Original) The method of claim 71, further comprising:
evaluating an expected value of information (EVI) utilizing, at least in part, employment
of discretized Equation (5):

$$\begin{aligned} EVI \propto & \sum_m \sum_n [\sum_s \alpha_i^n(s) \sum_l a_{sl}^n b_l^n(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n})] P(M_n) \\ & \max_i \sum_j U(M_i, M_j) p(M_j) \\ & - \max_i \sum_j U(M_i, M_j) p(M_j) - cost(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n}) \end{aligned} \quad \text{Eq. (5)}$$

where EVI is the expected value of information, $\alpha_i^n(s)$ is an alpha or forward variable at time t and state s in a standard Baum-Welch algorithm, a_{sl}^n is a transition probability of going from state s to state l , and $b_l^n(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n})$ is a probability of observing $O_{t+1}^{f_k^n}$ in state l , all of them in model M_n , $U(M_i, M_j)$ is a utility of assessing a value of asserting that real-world state M_i is M_j , and f_k^n , $m = 1 \dots M$ to denote discretized values of a feature combination f_k , and $cost(O_{t+1}^{f_k^n})$ is a computational cost associated with computing observations $O_{t+1}^{f_k^n}$.

74. (Original) The method of claim 69, the probabilistic model comprising a Layered Hidden Markov Model (LHMM).

75. (Original) The method of claim 74, further comprising:
employing lower level layers of the LHMM to mask higher level layers from needing to be re-trained when the perception system is changed to a new environment.

76. (Original) A perception evaluation system utilizing the method of claim 43 to determine benefits of additional perception sensors to a perception system.

77. (Original) A perception design system utilizing the method of claim 43 to design a perception system to optimally limit utilization of computing resources.

78. (Original) A perception response system employing the method of claim 43 to provide information utilizing knowledge of volatility of data due to influences of a flow of time to re-determine perceptions at appropriate intervals.

79. (Currently amended) A data analysis system, comprising:
~~sensor means a plurality of sensors to collect a plurality of features as perception evidence;~~

~~control means to limit utilization of computing resources of a computer system by a perception system by controlling control the plurality of sensors to selectively gather the perception evidence obtained for employment via [[a]] the perception system to limit utilization of computing resources of a computer system by the perception system; and~~

analyzing means to:

analyze the perception evidence utilizing an analysis policy to determine context of use of the computer system by one or more users in which the perception system is operating,
and

~~wherein the analyzing means is employed to guide the control means to limit the utilization of the computing resources regarding by determining which features from the plurality of features to collect by the sensor means as the perception evidence depending on a value of the features for limiting [[of]] the utilization of the computing resources by the perception system, based on the determined context; wherein~~

the control means ~~selects at least one sensor from the plurality of sensors to collect the features.~~

80. (Currently amended) A data analysis system, comprising:

a first component of a perception system that receives a data query relating to data to determine a context in which the perception system is operating so that to limit utilization of computing resources of a computer system by the perception system, wherein the data comprises perception evidence pertaining to at least one feature collected by a plurality of sensors; and

a second component that:

analyzes, with the at least one processor, volatility versus persistence of observations of at least one state of the data over time to establish reasonableness in timing of at least one reply to the query, wherein and

selects at least one sensor from the plurality of sensors to collect the perception evidence pertaining to the at least one feature to limit the utilization of the computing resources based on a value of the at least one feature in the context, and wherein

selection of the at least one feature depends on an intensity of interaction of a user with the computer system.

81. (Cancelled)

82. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable components that, when executed with the at least one processor, implement the control component and the analysis component of the system of claim 1.

83. (Original) A device employing the method of claim 43 comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of a computer, a server, and a handheld electronic device.

84. (Original) A device employing the system of claim 1 comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of a computer, a server, and a handheld electronic device.